

Characters:

Sheldon – Corey Lu

Leonard – Chris Xu

Penny – Rddhima Bora

Henry David Thoreau – Ruchir Kafle

Props

<u>Costumes/Clothing Accessories:</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>	<u>Need Help?</u>
Sheldon's khakis and long sleeve shirt	Corey	No
Penny's general clothes	Rddhima	No
Leonard's chill clothing	Chris	No
Thoreau's clothes	Ruchir	No
Thoreau's beard	Ms. Small	Yes

<u>Stage Props:</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>	<u>Need Help?</u>
Bag of beans	Ruchir	No

Can of beans	Chris	No
Grocery bag	Rddhima	No
Book	Ms. Small	Yes
Chinese Food Boxes	All of us	No

<u>Set Pieces Needed:</u>	<u>Person Responsible</u>	<u>Need Help?</u>
4 chairs	Ms. Small	Yes
Cardboard door	All of us	No

Other needs:

Speakers for Big Bang Theory sound effects

Script

Scene 0:

Thoreau: [Enters stage right. Uses key to open the door. Peers in and takes time to look at everything dramatically. Eventually plops down on the couch in Sheldon's spot and dramatically takes out a massive cardboard journal labelled Walden and begins to write]

Leonard: [Enters stage left. Comes into the living room]

Leonard: Oh! You must be Henry. Welcome! I'm Leonard.

Thoreau: Greetings, Leonard. It is an honor. I trust this dwelling is... simple and unadorned? [glances around] My God... you live in such excess.

Penny: [Enters behind] Hey, Leonard, who's the new guy?

Leonard: Penny, we had some trouble paying rent, so this is Henry David Thoreau... our new roommate.

Penny: Oh. Cool. Another genius?

Thoreau: [Laughing to himself] Oh no. I am but a humble man, seeking to live deliberately.

Penny (to Leonard): Oh so another weirdo.

Scene 1 Couch Scene

[Sheldon enters]

Sheldon: Excuse me... stranger... why are you in my spot?

Leonard: Uh... Sheldon, this is Henry David Thoreau. Like we discussed, he will be our new roommate.

Thoreau: I seek to live simply, close to the essential facts of life

Sheldon: Um, that's where I sit

Thoreau: ... So, sit next to me

Sheldon: Noo, I sit there.

Thoreau: What's the difference?

Sheldon: What's the difference!?

Leonard: Oh here we go again...

Sheldon: In the winter, that seat is close enough to the radiator to remain warm and yet not so close as to cause perspiration in the summer as it's directly in the path of a cross breeze created by opening windows there and there. It faces the television at an angle that is neither direct thus discouraging conversation nor so far wide as to create parallax distortion. I could go on, but I think I've made my point.

Leonard: Sheldon. Just sit somewhere else...

Sheldon: [Hesitates] Fine. [Looks around for seat]

Leonard: Sheldon. SIT.

Thoreau: You see, this is exactly my point. You're enslaved by your chair.

Sheldon: I am not enslaved. I have merely optimized my environment for maximum efficiency and comfort.

Thoreau: A wise man finds comfort within himself, not in the angle of a cushion.

Sheldon: [gasps] Are you suggesting... my seat is a *luxury*?

Thoreau: Indeed. True simplicity is found not in furniture or possessions, but in cultivating the earth, living on what it provides freely...

Leonard: [sighs] Oh boy. Now he's gonna try to sell you beans or something.

Thoreau: Ah! Beans! Nature's purest sustenance. I grew them myself at Walden Pond.

Would you like me to explain the spiritual benefits of cultivating bean-

Penny: Nope. Hard pass. The only beans I care about are in my burrito.

Sheldon: Excuse me. I need to practice my solitude. Every Saturday night while the others are socializing, I engage in a noble ritual of solitude.

Penny: And what ritual is that?

Sheldon: Halo. With strangers on the internet.

Leonard: Yeah, nothing says "solitude" like yelling at a twelve-year-old in Ohio. Through a screen...

Scene 2 Chinese Food

[Transition to night]

Leonard: Gee Penny, thanks for buying us dinner.

Sheldon: Yeah, what's the occasion.

Penny: No, no occasion, just felt like getting some Chinese chow for my peeps.

Sheldon: Did you remember to ask for the chicken with broccoli to be diced not shredded?

Penny: Yes

Sheldon: Even though the menu description specifies shredded.

Penny: Yes

Sheldon: Brown rice not white

Penny: Yes

Sheldon: You stop at the Korean grocery and get the good hot mustard?

Penny: Yes

Sheldon: You pick up the less sodium soy sauce from the market?

Penny: Yes

Sheldon: Good. You see how it's done Leonard.

Thoreau: Is all that truly necessary? Need you so much extravagant food and addons, when you can just eat simply?

Sheldon: Yes. It is very necessary. I refuse to eat anything less than this.

Thoreau: These superfluities will only distract you from the essence of life.

Sheldon: Oh yeah? Then what do you eat?

Thoreau: Only the most simple and essential foods, beans!

Penny: Sorry, beans?

Leonard: Like, just beans?

Thoreau: [pulling out a bag of beans] Yes! Beans!

Everybody: [Recoils a bit]

Penny: Uh, why do you have bea... you know what, I'm not even going to ask.

Leonard: That's... new...

Thoreau: Here, just, let off all the... all that. Try to eat simply.

Sheldon: I really don't want to.

Thoreau: Why?

Sheldon: Because it tastes best this way.

Thoreau: [Stands up and takes away all the condiments] Try simplicity.

Sheldon: Hey!

Thoreau: Try it. [Gestures towards the food]

Sheldon: I uh... [Looks around]

Thoreau: One time.

Sheldon: Okay fine! [Starts eating] This... isn't actually that bad.

Thoreau: See! Simplicity is best.

Sheldon: I don't know about the best, but it's... tolerable.

Thoreau: [Sits down and nods and starts to eat]

Penny: You... are actually just... eating the food, Sheldon!?

Sheldon: It's not... the worst.

Leonard: I think that means he likes it.

Sheldon: No it does not! It just means, it's fine.

Leonard: He's just shy. [Looking at Thoreau]

Penny: Uh, so, anyways! What do we got going on tonight, playing Halo?

Leonard: Since when have you been into Halo?

Penny: What can I say, I got my antisocial nerd on today.

Leonard: I... don't think that's what that means or how that works Penny.

Thoreau: Er, apologies, but might I inquire as to what a "Halo" may be?

Everybody: [Looks at Thoreau and says nothing for a moment]

Sheldon: You don't know what Halo is? What are you, a neanderthal?

Leonard: Sheldon, calm down.

Sheldon: Everybody should know what Halo is. I bet he doesn't even know what Wi-Fi is.

Thoreau: ...

Everybody: [Looks at him]

Penny: You don't know what Wi-Fi is?!

Thoreau: I can't say I do, no.

Leonard: Alright, after dinner we have got to introduce you to the internet.

Scene 3 WIFI scene

[After dinner]

Leonard: [Pulls out computer] Alright Thoreau, let me show you what the internet is.

Thoreau: Is it simplistic?

Leonard: Um, not so much.

Thoreau: I am getting less and less interested by the moment.

Leonard: No, no, it's great, just trust us and try it out.

Thoreau: Very well, I shall give it an attempt.

Sheldon: [Murmuring] What a neanderthal.

Leonard: Alright, take a seat.

Thoreau: [Take a seat at the computer] What is this fascinating metal box?

Sheldon: [Blurts out] A computer, only the most fascinating and modern piece of technology. Its core is made up of transis-

Penny: Alright you're just going to alienate him further, calm down Sheldon.

Leonard: [Turns on the computer] Alright Thoreau, watch this. [Boots into Halo]

Thoreau: [Stunned] Oh my! How fascinating! What is this dark magic?

Sheldon: It's not dar-

Leonard: It's Halo!

Thoreau: Ah I see, this is what you were alluding to earlier!

Leonard: Alright, why don't you give it a shot!

Thoreau: I've still got no idea what this i-

Leonard: You'll figure it out!

Thoreau: [Begins playing]

Sheldon: [Murmuring] Oh, nope nope nope, he should've-

Thoreau: My what a truly fascinating thing! It's like a game, but virtual! A... virtual game!

Sheldon: Videogame actually.

Thoreau: Yes! Videogame. How intriguing. There are so many different facets to this game.

Despite its unsimplistic nature, I can't help but be caught up in it.

Leonard: I'm glad you like it!

Thoreau: Yes! I see now that there is joy in not just the most simplistic things in life, but that one may be able to live deliberately even with more complex things. Maybe one should not be stuck up in the past and instead come to appreciate the purpose and joy in everything.

Penny: Uh... yeah what he said.

Sheldon: Wait, so you meant to say that you don't think my computer is pointless despite its complexity.

Thoreau: Indeed!

Sheldon: Well, I'm glad you finally came to your senses.

Scene 4 Ending

[Thoreau and Sheldon are playing Halo against one another]

Sheldon: Oh, he's definitely cheating, there's no way he can win against me.

Penny: Sheldon, do you really think a guy who learned about what Wi-Fi is not even an hour ago would know how to cheat?

Sheldon: [Throws down his phone] I don't know how he's done it, but it's impossible for him to win against me.

Thoreau: A seer is one who observes and learns from his surroundings, but also truly experiences life.

Sheldon: Alright old man, keep spouting your wisdom. [Rolling eyes]

Penny: Hey Sheldon, I just noticed something.

Sheldon: What?

Penny: You're not sitting in your signature seat.

Sheldon: That's true.

Penny: ... Well, why? Before today you'd be scared to death in the same circumstances.

Sheldon: Well, I just came to realize that maybe sometimes it isn't always the best to overthink everything.

Thoreau: Indeed, simplicity is key. Yet just as important is the converse, that is a level of complexity that does not distract one from the truths of life. We must truly learn to strike a balance between these two polarized sides.

Leonard: Wow, it seems like you two have really come to an understanding.

Sheldon: I guess so.

Penny: Well, since you two have become such good friends, why doesn't Sheldon give up half of his room for Thoreau!

Sheldon: NO! Just because he's sitting there doesn't mean that he's a friend.

Leonard: Oh Sheldon, why don't you show him around your room.

[Sheldon walks out and SLAM]

Leonard: Well, I guess he's staying but not in Sheldon's room.